

10/590862
IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 AUG 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q96769

Satoru HARADA

Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2005/002620

Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: August 28, 2006

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: ARTIFICIAL HAIR FIBER BUNDLE AND HAIR DECORATIVE PRODUCT
USING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International

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Search Report for PCT/JP2005/002620 dated May 31, 2005), together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. English-language abstracts are attached, except for JP 48-44529.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2-53910 is cited and discussed on page 1 of the specification of the present application. An English-language abstract is also attached. In addition, the listing JP 63-290595 corresponds to the listed U.S. Patent 5,083,967.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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| <p>Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p> | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | National Stage of PCT/JP2005/002620 |
| | | | | Confirmation Number | Not yet assigned |
| | | | | Filing Date | August 28, 2006 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Satoru HARADA |
| | | | | Art Unit | Not yet assigned |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not yet assigned |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | Q96769 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature _____ **Date Considered** _____

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ A translation is indicated when English language Translation is attached.

⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.